

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 /095 W  
-----006523 071905Z /41

P R 071743Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8252  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
USMISSION USNATO  
AMEMBASSY BERN  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION USUN  
USNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

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BRUSSELS FOR USEEC-  
USCINCEUR FOR POLADUSDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: TU GR  
SUBJ: ECEVIT INTERVIEW WITH FIGARO

1. ON EVE OF HIS MEETING WITH CARAMANLIS IN  
MONTREUX NEXT FRIDAY TURKISH PRIME MINISTER  
ECEVIT GAVE GENERALLY UPBEAT INTERVIEW TO  
FIGARO MARCH 7. KEY THEMES FOLLOW:  
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2. ON THE GREEK-TURKISH SUMMIT AT MONTREUX:

ECEVIT WAS "OPTIMISTIC," BECAUSE A HIGH-LEVEL  
DIALOGUE WAS NECESSARY TO RESOLVE  
GREEK-TURKISH DIFFERENCES. WE HAVE TAKEN THAT  
STEP. WITHOUT IT WE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO

GIVE POLITICAL DIRECTION TO OUR EXPERTS.

"I HAVE BEEN CONVINCED FOR A LONG TIME THAT THERE IS NO REAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES." "THE EXISTING PROBLEMS ARE DUE TO LACK OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE AND THE ABSENCE OF A DIALOGUE".

3. ON THE AMERICAN ENGAGEMENT ON NATO'S SOUTH-EASTERN FLANK:

AMONG NATO MEMBERS TURKEY HAS ALWAYS COMMITTED THE HIGHEST PROPORTION OF ITS NATIONAL RESOURCES TO ITS DEFENSE. IT COULD NOT CONTINUE TO WEAKEN ITS ECONOMY TO STRENGTHEN ITS DEFENSES OR REMAIN A MERE OUTPOST FOR THE WEST. NATO ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY AND ITS MEMBERS' ECONOMIC HEALTH. WHILE TURKEY IS THE ONLY DEVELOPING COUNTRY WHICH HAS PRESERVED ITS DEMOCRACY SINCE WORLD WAR II, THE LATTER PRINCIPLE HAS NOT BEEN RESPECTED.

THE US POSITION TOWARD TURKEY HAS RESULTED IN A REDUCTION OF ITS NATO CONTRIBUTION. THIS CONCERNS THE WEST AS A WHOLE. WE CANNOT CONFIDE TURKEY'S SECURITY TO THE CONGRESS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A DISTANT LAND. WE DO NOT INTEND TO LEAVE NATO. BUT OUR CONTRIBUTION TO NATO CANNOT BE LARGER THAN THAT WHICH THAT ALLIANCE MAKES TO OUR SECURITY AND TO THE ECONOMY OF OUR COUNTRY.

4. ON TURKISH ARMS PURCHASES:

THE INCONVENIENCES OF NATO ARMS STANDARDIZATION AND OF THE US EMBARGO ARE EVIDENT. TURKEY WILL NONETHELESS ONLY TAKE SUCH STEPS AS ARE COMPATIBLE WITH ITS STATUS AS A NATO MEMBER.

5. ON TURKO-SOVIET RELATIONS:

BETTER ECONOMIC RELATIONS CAN OBVIOUSLY IMPROVE

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

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USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

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POLITICAL RELATIONS. MOREOVER, A COUNTRY'S SECURITY DEPENDS NOT ONLY ON INCREASING ITS MILITARY FORCE BUT ON DEVELOPING FRIENDLIER RELATIONS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS. THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF TURKEY'S NEW DEFENSE POLICY. FOR DETENTE DOES NOT DEPEND ONLY ON THE INITIATIVES OF THE LARGE COUNTRIES.

6. ON EC RELATIONS:

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TURKEY IS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY WHICH WANTS TO EXPAND ITS NATURAL RELATIONS IN THE BALKANS,

THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.  
IT DOES HAVE SOME PROBLEMS WITH THE COMMUNITY  
WHICH HAS GIVEN TO SOME NON-MEMBERS GREATER  
BENEFITS THAN TO TURKEY. RELATIONS WITH THE  
COMMUNITY THEREFORE HAVE TO BE REVIEWED AND  
IMPROVED.

7. ON RELATIONS WITH FRANCE:

I PARTICULARLY HOPE, ECEVIT CONCLUDED, THAT  
RELATIONS WITH FRANCE CAN BE IMPROVED. THE  
CIRCUMSTANCES ARE PROPITIOUS. YOUR PAPER  
COULD PLAY A ROLE AS INTERMEDIARY.

8. COMMENT:

WE DEFER TO EMBASSIES ANKARA AND ATHENS FOR  
POSSIBLE COMMENT. FROM PARIS' PERSPECTIVE  
WE ARE STRUCK BY FACT THAT ECEVIT IN FACT GAVE AN  
INTERVIEW TO A MAJOR FRENCH PAPER BEFORE HIS  
IMPORTANT MEETING WITH CARAMANLIS. HE IS AT  
LEAST BIDDING FOR GREATER FRENCH COMPREHENSION,  
AND, AS PARA 7 SUGGESTS, MAY IN FACT BE TRYING  
TO PERSUADE GISCARD, WHO IS CARAMANLIS'  
FRIEND, TO IMPROVE RELATIONS.  
HARTMAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**TAGS:** SOPN, TU, GR  
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